

MINUTES

Adelia M. Hillman

OF THE

Sep 3

Oct 7

FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Zion Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

THE BLUFF SPRINGS CHURCH,

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISS., SEPT. 4th, 5th AND 6th, 1890.

OFFICERS:

G. W. DUDLEY, Moderator.....Walthall, Miss.
T. N. ROSS, Clerk.....Atlanta, Miss.
J. H. PRYOR, Treasurer.....Slate Springs, Miss.

ATLANTA, GA.,

JAS. P. HARRISON & Co., PUBLISHERS.
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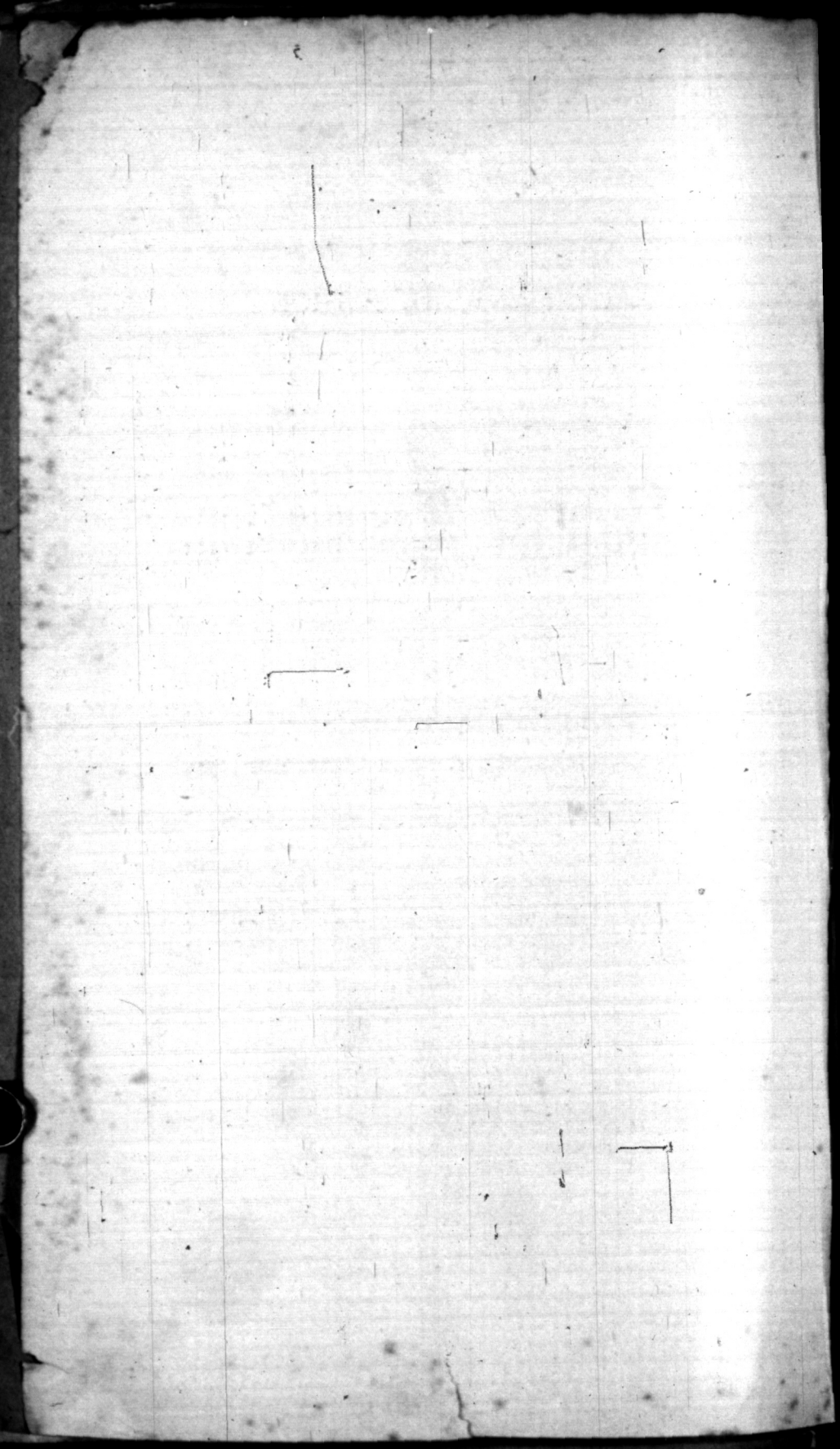
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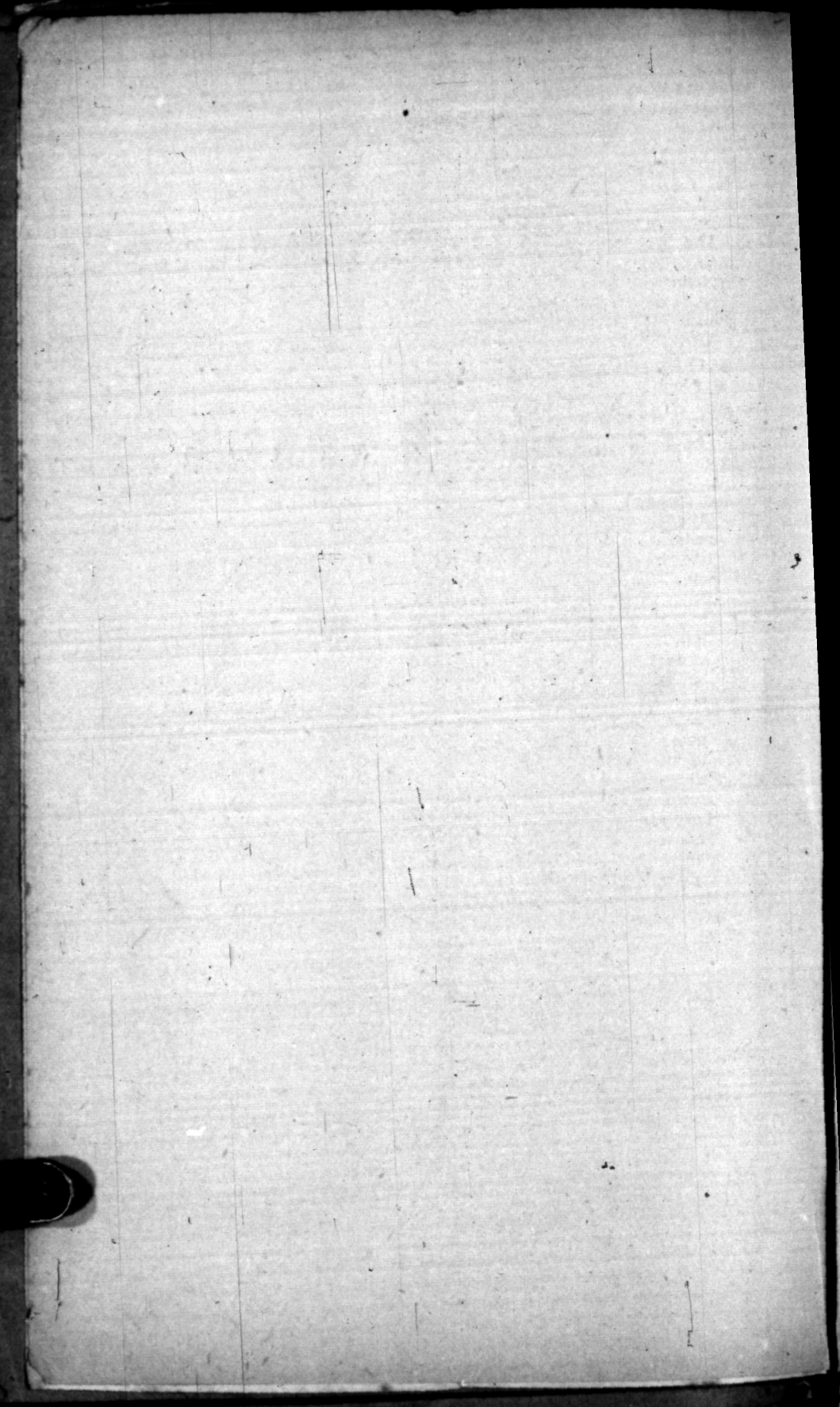
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MINUTES

FIRST DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Zion Association met in its fifty-fifth annual session with the Bluff Springs church, Webster county, Mississippi, on the 4th day of September, 1890.

At 11 o'clock the Introductory Sermon was preached by the appointee, J. L. Arnold, from 1st Cor. 9:16.

After an intermission of one hour the Association was called to order by the Clerk, who announced the absence of the Moderator. The 23d Psalm was read, and prayer offered by J. P. Thompson.

On motion of J. P. Thompson, Brother G. W. Dudley was elected Moderator *pro tem*.

The Moderator appointed N. B. Crawford, I. P. Trotter and J. H. Pryor, Reading Clerks.

Letters from thirty-four churches were presented and read, and two churches were received bearing petitionary letters.

The following churches were represented:

Antioch—A. M. George and J. Q. Durham.

Bethany—Joseph Vance, J. P. Thompson and W. H. Thompson.

Bethel—Sterling Doolittle and J. K. P. Hambey.

Bluff Springs—B. Watson, J. M. Rodgers and C. S. Clark.

Cross Roads—T. N. Ross and A. H. Golightly.

Chestnut Springs—J. L. Ross and S. G. Taylor.

County Line—T. H. Middleton and A. E. Kolb.

Concord—William Blaylock, R. G. Haney, H. G. Smith and J. R. Shaw.

Double Springs (no letter)—G. H. Duke and L. J. Taylor.

Enon—W. D. Turnage and J. L. Hazelwood.

Eupora—B. Delashmet.

Fellowship—A. B. Hicks, J. L. Wilson and J. C. Winter.

Greensboro—I. P. Trotter, R. S. Cannon and J. F. Johnson.

Harmony—J. H. Sledge, E. D. Parker and Terrell Rose.

Hebron—J. F. Lucius, J. J. McQuary and R. S. Skelton.

Miligan Springs—Jeff Tennison and Z. C. Box.

Midway—J. C. Wells.

Mt. Vernon—C. D. McCain and Joseph Wood.

Mt. Pleasant—S. G. Hunter, J. L. Arnold and J. W. Wright.

Mt. Zion—T. K. Payne.

Montpelier—J. C. Henley and R. P. Gullet.

Mulberry—S. L. Wray, S. R. Neil and J. R. Freeman.

New Hope—J. H. Pryor, T. H. Wilson, Walter Spencer and Joel Gregg.

New Liberty—L. L. Hammond and E. J. Mitchell.

Philadelphia—J. N. Patterson, Robert Cannon and J. F. Haney.

Pleasant Grove (Chickasaw county)—N. B. Crawford, Joel Ellison and A. R. Wofford.

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Pleasant Grove (Grenada county)—By letter.
Pleasant Grove (Montgomery county)—James Beckham, William
Trainer and A. C. Robinson.
Pleasant Hill—F. C. Hitt.
Providence—S. M. Cole, John Ward and Wesley Nellums.
Pilgrim's Rest—N. B. Aswalt, M. S. Garey and R. D. Ransom.
Spring Creek—J. A. Dalton and G. I. Gammill.
Spring Hill (no letter)—Eli Hardin and G. D. Burson.
Sabougla—H. M. Trussell and D. D. McPhail.
Shiloh—J. A. Dunn, J. L. Dunn and J. M. Robinson.
Union—J. L. Freeman and John Kimbrell.
Wake Forrest—J. F. Mitchel, J. T. Martin and J. H. Hall.
Walthall—W. A. Hays, G. W. Dudley and E. Lovett.

On motion of T. H. Wilson, the rules were suspended and the following officers were elected by acclamation, viz.: G. W. Dudley, Moderator; T. N. Ross, Clerk; and J. H. Pryor, Treasurer.

Called for petitionary letters, whereupon letters were presented from two newly organized churches, to-wit: Pilgrim's Rest and Eupora, which were admitted into the Zion Association and welcomed to seats. Brothers Eli Hardin and G. D. Burson were received without letter, as delegates from Spring Hill church, and Elder G. H. Duke and Brother L. J. Taylor were received without letter as delegates from Double Springs church.

The time for Elder J. P. Thompson to preach the Sermon on Missions was set for 11 o'clock to-morrow.

Committee on Devotional Exercises.—J. A. Dalton, Terrel Rose, A. E. Kold, with the Pastor and Deacons of Bluff Springs church.

On motion of J. P. Thompson, 20 minutes were appropriated to devotional exercises each morning.

Called for Corresponding Messengers.—The following brethren were appointed Corresponding Messengers to represent us in the following bodies:

Baptist State Convention.—A. B. Hicks, J. P. Thompson, N. B. Crawford, C. A. Hicks, J. H. Pryor, T. H. Wilson, G. W. Dudley, T. N. Lusk and J. F. Mitchell.

Yallobusha, Oxford Association.—J. P. Thompson.

Aberdeen Association.—J. W. Wright, S. M. Cole, J. L. Arnold, T. N. Ross, Joel Ellison, N. B. Crawford and J. F. Mitchell.

Columbus Association.—A. E. Kolb and G. W. Narow.

Calhoun Association.—S. M. Cole, S. G. Hunter and C. A. Hicks.

Louisville Association.—C. A. Hicks, G. H. Duke and I. P. Trotter.

Kosciusko Association.—T. N. Lusk.

Yazoo Association.—J. P. Thompson and W. A. Hurt.

On motion of A. B. Hicks, the rules were suspended and the Moderator was authorized to appoint a delegate and two alternates to the Southern Baptist Convention, who appointed A. B. Hicks, delegate, and J. P. Thompson and J. H. Pryor, alternates.

Renewed call for correspondence.—Elder J. T. Christian presented himself as Secretary of the Convention Board and representative of the *Southern Baptist Record*, and was welcomed to a seat in the Association.

The Moderator appointed the following committee on Finance, viz.: B. Delashmet, N. B. Crawford and J. W. Wright.

Report of Committee on Devotional Exercises.—Elder S. M. Cole to preach to-night, and Elder G. H. Duke to conduct prayer-meeting in the morning.

The Association adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING, September 5th, 1890.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Elder G. H. Duke; morning lesson 37th Psalm.

At 9 o'clock the Moderator called the Association to order.

The following brethren were appointed a committee on Digest of Church Letters, viz.: S. R. Neil, I. P. Trotter and J. M. Robinson.

Elder J. P. Thompson was excused from preaching the 11 o'clock sermon.

The Treasurer presented his report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committee (Appendix A.)

Spring Creek, Antioch and Pleasant Grove (Chickasaw county made application for the next meeting of this body, and after much discussion the Association agreed to meet with Spring Creek church.

The report on Foreign Missions was read and received. On motion to adopt, the discussion was opened by Elder J. T. Christian, and was followed by J. H. Pryor. Pending discussion, the Association adjourned one hour for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, and vote was taken on the motion to adopt the report on Foreign Missions, and the report was adopted. (Appendix B.)

Elder L. C. Hicks presented himself as a Corresponding Delegate from the Calhoun Association, and was received and welcomed to a seat in this body.

The report on Home and State Missions was read and received, and after discussion by Elders Christian, Thompson and Wilson the report was adopted. (Appendix C.)

The Moderator appointed the following Committee on Nominations, viz.: J. J. McQuary, I. P. Trotter and J. L. Ross.

On motion of S. R. Neil the subject of Ministerial Education was presented for discussion, and after several speeches by Elder T. N. Lusk and others, the following amounts were pledged for paying Brother W. H. Thompson's board at the Clinton College; the amounts pledged are to be paid before the 25th of December, 1890.

PLEDGES FOR MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Pleasant Grove, (Grenada),	\$ 5 00	Sabougla,	\$ 5 00
Walthall,	5 00	Fellowship,	5 00
Bethany,	10 00	Shiloh,	5 00
Mulberry,	5 00	Greensboro,	5 00
New Hope,	5 00	New Liberty,	5 00
Bethel,	5 00	Cross Roads,	2 50
Philadelphia,	5 00	Bluff Springs,	2 50
Pleasant Grove (Chickasaw)	5 00	Chestnut Springs,	2 50
Pleasant Grove (Montgomery),	5 00	Eli Hardin,	1 00
Total,			\$83 50

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On motion of T. N. Ross, the Baptist church at Enon was granted a letter of dismission from this body.

The following subjects are assigned the churches named to be reported on at the next meeting of this body:

Foreign Missions, New Hope; Home and State Missions, Bethany; Ministerial Education, Greensboro; Sabbath-schools, Eupora; Periodicals, Bethel; Temperance, Midway; Systematic Benevolence, Mulberry.

The Association adjourned until to-morrow morning 8:30 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING, September 6th, 1890.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Elder W. H. Thompson.

At 8:30 o'clock the Moderator called the Association to order.

The Committee on Digest of Church Letters presented the following report, (Appendix D.) The report was received and adopted.

The Committee on Temperance made the following report. (Appendix E.) The report was received, and after discussion by Elders T. H. Wilson, J. P. Thompson, T. H. Middleton, C. A. Hicks and L. C. Hicks, the report was adopted.

The Committee on Sabbath-schools made the following report. (Appendix F.) The report was received, and after discussion by J. P. Thompson, G. W. Dudley, T. H. Wilson, J. H. Pryor, G. W. Narow, Joseph Vance and C. S. Clark, the report was adopted.

Owing to the pressure of business, on motion of Elder T. H. Wilson, Elder J. P. Thompson was released from his appointment to preach a sermon on Missions.

The Committee on Nominations made the following report, which was received and adopted. (Appendix G.)

On motion of Elder T. H. Middleton, Elder J. P. Thompson was appointed to preach a sermon on Missions at the next meeting of this Association, and Elder A. B. Hicks was appointed alternate.

The Committee on Systematic Benevolence made the following report, (Appendix H.) which was received. Discussed by J. P. Thompson, S. E. Parker, N. B. Crawford, L. C. Hicks, J. H. Pryor and T. H. Wilson, and adopted.

The Committee on Finance made the following report, (Appendix I) which was received and adopted.

The Committee on Ministerial Education made the following report, (Appendix J.) which was received and adopted.

The Executive Board made the following report, (Appendix K) which was received and adopted.

The following resolutions were read and adopted:

By T. H. Wilson—In furtherance of the recommendation of the Executive Board, it is

Resolved, That the churches be requested to take subscriptions at their next Conference meeting for the payment of a Colporteur Missionary, (said payments to be made quarterly) and report their action to the Moderator of this body; and when two hundred dollars shall have been subscribed, it shall be his duty to appoint some suitable member of this body to meet the Convention Board at its next meeting and request the employment of said Colporteur Missionary.

By J. P. Thompson—

WHEREAS, The Pleasant Grove church feels grieved with the Chestnut Springs church in receiving into her fellowship an excluded member from Pleasant Grove church,

Resolved, That the aggrieved church will be governed by the instruction found in Matt. 18.

By T. N. Ross—

WHEREAS, We learn that Elder B. Watson and Brother Henry Smith are the only members of this body who were baptized by Old Father Meda White, it is

Resolved, That we sing some suitable song, and extend the parting hand to those brethren during the adjourning exercises.

By J. H. Pryor—

Resolved, That the Clerk be allowed \$15.00 for his services, and be instructed to expend all the money remaining for printing minutes, and that they be distributed to the churches in proportion to the amount sent by each church.

By J. H. Pryor—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due, and are hereby tendered, to the members of Bluff Springs church, and the citizens of this community, for the lavish hospitality extended to delegates and visitors during our present session.

The following brethren were elected as members of the Executive Board for the next Associational year :

G. W. Dudley, J. H. Pryor, T. N. Ross, N. B. Crawford, Joe Moore, J. Q. Durham, I. P. Trotter, Felix Martin, D. Ray and P. J. Lusk.

The roll was called and corrected, and the Association adjourned to meet with the Spring Creek church, 3 miles southwest of Cumberland, on Thursday before the first Sunday in September, 1893.

T. N. ROSS, Clerk.

G. W. DUDLEY, Moderator.

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APPENDICES.

A.—TREASURER'S REPORT.

J. H. Pryor, Treasurer, in account with the Zion Association for the Associational year 1889-90.

Sept. 2.	Received of Finance Committee.....	Dr.	Cr.
" "	" " A. Shelton (Min. Ed.).....	68 85	
" "	" " Dora Shelton " ".....	2 50	
" "	" " Margaret Shelton (Min. Ed.).....	50	
" "	" " A. B. Hicks (deficit, last year)...	50	
" "	" " T. H. Wilson " ".....	8 30	
" "	" " Midway church (deficit Min. Ed)	5 00	
" "	" " Greensboro " " " ".....	5 00	
" "	" " Due Treasurer, last report.....		2 20
" "	" " Paid T. N. Ross, Clerk.....		46 80
" "	" " W. H. Thompson.....		5 50
Sept. 18.	" J. D. Pryor, borrowed money for Min. Ed		10 00
	" J. T. Christian.....		30 00

Received from the churches and individuals the following amounts this year:

Antioch.....	1 70
Bethel.....	14 60
Bethany, (for mis. \$37.00; College En. \$9.30).....	46 30
Bluff Springs.....	2 20
Cross Roads.....	4 10
Chestnut Springs.....	
Countyline.....	
Concord.....	1 00
Double Springs.....	50
Fellowship.....	
Greensboro.....	10 15
Harmony.....	
Hebron.....	
Midway.....	4 30
Mt. Vernon.....	2 35
Miligan Springs.....	
Montpelier.....	
Mulberry, for Min. Ed.....	5 00
Mt. Pleasant.....	1 15
New Liberty.....	1 00
Philadelphia, (Min. Ed. \$2.25; Mis. \$6.80).....	9 05
Pleasant Grove (Chic.).....	
Pleasant Grove (Gre.).....	5 50
Pleasant Grove (Mont).....	
Pleasant Hill.....	
Providence.....	1 45
Shiloh, for Min. Ed.....	2 30
	3 10

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Spring Hill.....	2 05
Spring Valley.....	
Spring Creek.....	
Sabongla	15 50
Union.....	
Walthall.....	7 85
Wakeforest.....	
Enon	
New Hope, Min. Ed. \$2.05; Mis. \$26.70.....	28 75
J. T. Pryor, Min. Ed.....	10 00
T. N. Ross, " ".....	2 00
Mary Spruill, " ".....	50
Sadie Chandler, " ".....	50
Tobitha Pepper " ".....	1 00
P. G. Lusk, " ".....	3 00
T. H. Wilson, " ".....	5 00
R. A. Mallory, " ".....	50
R. G. Gordon, " ".....	50
R. Frank, " ".....	50
Joseph Fox, " ".....	50
Paid W. H. Thompson.....	37 25
" Postage.....	60
" J. T. Christian.....	54 80
" H. A. Tupper.....	63 50
" B. W. Griffith.....	40 00
	<hr/>
	289 30 290 65

Balance due Treasurer,..... 1 35
Respectfully submitted. J. H. PROR, Treasurer.

B—REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

While we have had a great deal to discourage our efforts to send the Gospel throughout the world, yet there is much that is gratifying, indeed. Our work is increasing, consequently more funds are needed to meet the essential demands of our foreign stations. From every field there is a call for more laborers and more funds. Our Missionaries are doing good work, yet they are unable to do what should be done. We should not allow this call to pass by year after year unheeded. Shall we not demonstrate the faith we believe, in the command of God, "Go preach my gospel to every creature," by doing more for the advancement of the great work? The reward to the faithful and earnest worker is sure, let us pray more often and more earnestly for those who are carrying on our work. From the report of the Southern Baptist Convention we find that Mississippi contributed for Foreign Missions \$6,079.24: an increase over last year's report of \$263.08.

We have Missionaries in Italy, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Africa and China. There are at work in the territories 78 Foreign Missionaries and 86 native assistants, making in all 164 missionary workers, 62 churches and 161 stations, making in all 223 preaching places. Compare these figures with those of ten years ago.

The report from the Brazilian Missions shows that in Rio and Minas only two workers remain to preach to the 15,000,000 people,

Mr. and Mrs. Soper having left on account of sickness. In Brazil there are 7 main stations with 8 out stations and 9 missionaries.

The reports from China are encouraging. There are 9 main stations, with 32 out stations and 33 missionaries.

In Africa there are 3 main stations and 2 out stations, with 10 missionaries.

In Italy there are 12 main stations and 86 out stations, with 3 missionaries.

In Mexico there are 7 main stations and 27 out stations, with 3 missionaries.

In Japan there are 4 missionaries. They have paid during the past year for mission work \$4,680.87, which is an average of about \$2 for each member. Cannot the members in our churches do this much? This is twenty times as much as our churches average. We must learn to work faithfully for the Master, and our reward will come at the proper time.

JOHN TAYLOR,
J. J. ADAMS,
W. C. SUGG. } Committee.

C—REPORT ON HOME AND STATE MISSIONS.

We think the work under the auspices of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention is greatly underestimated by Mississippi Baptists.

We are more fortunate in being able to supply the destitution in our own State than our brethren are in other States. We must come to their help. Vast numbers of people are coming from all parts of the world to the South. We must give them the Gospel. Other denominations are alive to this great need. We must not be behind. Now is the opportune time.

We must give the negroes the pure Gospel. They naturally fall in with Baptist ideas. If we would guard them from religious error on our side, and from religious demagogues on the other, we must give them the pure Gospel. Their preachers need our instruction and financial help.

The Indians are calling to us. We are neglecting them. Their country has been taken away from them. Let us give them the gospel.

Cuba is fast coming to Christ under the efficient ministers of the Home Board. To hold what has been gained we must press forward in this grand enterprise.

STATE MISSIONS.

There is no work fostered by this Association of greater importance than that of State Missions. God has greatly honored and blessed this work in the past, and we believe that at no time in its history has the outlook been more encouraging.

A most prosperous year has been closed, and the State Convention Board has been able to pay all of the missionaries in full, so they can enter the new year untrammelled by debts. There are still destitute fields in our State which should be occupied as soon as practicable;

towns and communities where there is no Baptist preaching, and we regard every such place as destitute. There is also destitution in the Mississippi valley. These fields should all be occupied by strong, practical men. This cannot be done unless the churches place the money in the hands of the Board.

L. L. HAMMOND, }
E. J. MITCHELL, } Committee.

D—REPORT ON DIGEST OF CHURCH LETTERS.

We have carefully examined the letters from the different churches and find that six Sabbath-schools are reported by letter and one weekly prayer-meeting by the following churches, to-wit: Sabougla, Philadelphia, New Hope, Eupora, Bluff Springs and Enon, and from outside evidence we believe there are others not mentioned in the church letters.

We find that all the churches except 13 have held revival meetings, and that in most of the churches a good, healthy, religious feeling exists, and many of the churches have asked for the prayers of the Association.

Peace seems to prevail in most of the churches, but from the additions and exclusions in the churches, the increase has not been as great as should reasonably be expected, and from reasonable inferences from contributions and other causes, we judge that there is not that lively zeal in the cause of Christ that we should expect, and we are constrained to believe discipline is too lax in many of our churches, and that the membership should be aroused to a sense of their duty as church members.

The churches have been tolerably liberal in the support of their pastors, but badly deficient in their donations to missions and other benevolent purposes—only a few of the churches sending funds for this purpose. The few of which we can make special mention are Bethel, \$15; Sabougla, \$15; Pleasant Grove (Montgomery), \$27.30; Pleasant Grove (Chickasaw), \$13.74; Bethany, \$111.40; Fellowship, \$13.90; New Hope, \$28.75; Walthall, \$14.50; Philadelphia, \$20.25; and other churches have doubtless contributed various sums which have failed to be mentioned in their letters, and others that we fail to mention in this report. Considering all things our churches are in a healthy condition. Respectfully submitted,

I. P. TROTTER, Chm'n.

E—REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We are taught by the word of inspiration to be temperate in all things, but the term more specifically applies in the usage of this day to abstinence from alcoholic drinks. It is a pleasing fact that the cause of temperance and prohibition is making steady progress throughout the bounds of the Zion Association.

The spirit of God is being listened to by the brethren of our denomination, and they are being educated to the true views of this question. It is rare indeed that any member of the Baptist church can be heard excusing, much less defending, the infamous liquor traffic, and we are

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hopeful that the day is not far distant when this blighting curse will be forever banished from our land. To this end let all Baptists pray and work that those who come after us may be freed from the contaminating influences of this monster evil.

G. W. DUDLEY.

F—REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

From a careful examination of the letters from the churches of this Association we are painfully impressed with the lack of interest in our churches on the subject of Sabbath-schools. That Sabbath-schools should be established and sustained in each church of our Association, is a fact so potent to every lover of the cause of our blessed Redeemer that it needs no demonstration. Sabbath-schools are, or should be, the nurseries of the church, where the sincere milk of the word should be instilled into the minds and hearts of the young, so that they may grow up to the stature of men and women in Christ Jesus our Lord, who has said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of Heaven." It is also profitable for the more mature, and even the aged, who by their presence and example should enforce the sacred principles taught in the Sabbath-school, that they may take deep hold upon the mind and conscience of all, and bring forth much fruit to the honor and glory of the cause of our blessed Redeemer. Thus youths reared in the Sabbath-schools and impressed by the encouragement and precepts of parents and teachers will grow up to be a moral, religious and refined people, of whom the church and society may have just right to be proud. Then we say, to each and all the churches of this Association, organize a Sabbath-school in your church. Let the aged say to the young, come let us go to the Sabbath-school! Then it will soon be a pleasure to both old and young.

NOTE.—Writer failed to sign his name.

CLERK

G—REPORT ON NOMINATIONS,

To preach the Introductory Sermon, T. N. Lusk; alternate, C. A. Hicks.
I. P. TROTTER, Chm'n.

H.—REPORT ON SYSTEMATIC BENEVOLENCE.

That all our churches should adopt and carry out some system of benevolence, goes without saying. "Let everything be done in decency and order," is the divine injunction. Why should not this apply to giving of the means with which God has blessed us, as well as to everything else? That giving is a Christian grace is too plainly taught in the Scriptures to be disputed by anyone at all conversant with its sacred pages. It is too plainly taught by the Master, and the great Apostle to the Gentiles, to be denied. The Scriptural plan may be found in the first Epistle of Paul to the church at Corinth. It is this, "Upon the first day of the week, let everyone of you lay by him in store, as God has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." Thus we see that this is a personal matter. The husband cannot give for the wife, the father, the son or daughter, but each one for him or herself. As to the amount to be given, we

think that is also plainly taught; each one is to give as the Lord has prospered him, this makes the most reasonable and just assessment of the amount to be given. If there be first a willing mind. It is required of a man according to what he hath, and not according to what he hath not. Brethren, let us adopt some system in regard to this matter in all our churches, and we recommend the same plan recommended by our Convention Board, viz., the quarterly collection plan. Let each of us obey the injunction of Holy writ. "Lay by you in store as the Lord prospers," that we may be prepared to give at these stated times, and let us remember that the Master is standing over against the Treasury.

Signed: J. N. Patterson, R. Cannon.

I.—REPORT ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance submit the following report :

Received for Minutes.....	\$ 58.70
" " Home Missions.....	11.58
" " Foreign Missions.....	24.98
" " Ministerial Education.....	4.83
Grand total paid J. H. Pryor.....	\$100.10
To cash as pr. Treasurer's report.....	289.30
By disbursements as pr. Treasurer's report.....	\$290.65
In hands of Treasurer.....	98.75
	<hr/>
	\$389.40 \$389.40

Respectfully submitted, B. Delashmet, N. B. Crawford.

J.—REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We believe it is the duty of people to educate, and especially do we believe that Ministers of the Gospel, should be educated, and it seems that many of our young ministers are destitute of the means to educate themselves. We believe it is the duty of our churches, to not only encourage them by their advice, but to aid them financially, that they may be able to properly teach their congregations the ways of godliness. We think our ministers should not only be devoted Christians, but that they should be well informed, and looked upon as capable of properly instructing their members. We further believe that all ministers of the Gospel should live of the Gospel, and should be free from as many cares as possible, except such as pertain to the ministry. They should visit their members and encourage them to go to church. We fully believe that if our ministers and brethren would visit their members more, and thereby show that we felt an interest in each other, that our members would be more prompt in attending our conference meetings, and that our collections to further the interest of the cause of Christianity would be better, and that our churches would begin to grow. Many of our members fail to attend our meetings simply because they think there is no interest felt for them. Brethren, it is no disgrace to be poor, and if we will only look at the goodness of God toward the poor, we would be encouraged many times that we are going bowed down in grief and

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distress. We should remember that our blessed Saviour sprang from the poor, as have also the greater part of our most noted men: Then let us cheer up and not be discouraged because our fathers are not the equal of a Vanderbilt in the wealth of this world. We regret to see any father so acting as to impress his children that they are looked down upon because of a lack of money. Our ministers should visit those of their charge and encourage them to attend their meetings, and let their presence show a desire for the progress of Christianity.

Respectfully submitted, N. B. Crawford, A. R. Wofford, Joel Ellison.

K₁—REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

We have visited nearly all of our churches, but not as often as our appointments required or we desired. We have also tried, as best we could, to instruct the churches where we went, as to our duty to contribute of our means for the spread of the Gospel, and we feel thankful to the great Giver of all good that our efforts have been (in a measure) crowned with success, and that our churches have more generally contributed for the spread of the Gospel, than for years past; and, although their contributions have been small, there are only about twelve churches in our Association that have failed to give something, and we feel that this is some improvement. We find further, that very few of our churches have any system of benevolence, and of the churches that do contribute, very few of the members (comparatively) give anything. We feel that our people need instruction in regard to this matter, and that if they had the proper instruction, and were taught their duty, there would be a better state of things existing than at present. Our people do not have as much religious reading matter as we think they should have, while many of them take and read several political and literary papers, very few of them take the *Record* or any other religious paper, and consequently know little or nothing about our Missionary Boards, or the operations, success, and needs of our missionaries, and more than all this, we fear that many of our pastors fail to declare the whole council of God, as we understand it, and as we think the word of God teaches it. We recommend that the Association take steps to have a missionary colporteur put in the field, whose duty it shall be to visit our members, sell religious books, distribute tracts, preach to our churches, and endeavor, by the help of God, to stir up our people to a discharge of their duty in this respect.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. Vance, Sec. Ex. Board.

REPORT OF WESTERN DISTRICT MEETING.

The next meeting will be held with Philadelphia church, on Friday before the 4th Sunday in May, 1891. J. P. Thompson to preach the Introductory Sermon; M. C. Allen, alternate.

PROGRAMME.

1st. Is there any difference between Redemption and Atonement? If so, what is it?—J. P. Thompson.

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- 2nd. Is there conclusive evidence that the Apostles were baptized or regenerated before the day of Pentecost?—T. H. Wilson.
- 3rd. Importance of old people attending Sabbath-schools.—A. B. Hicks and J. T. Pryor.
- 4th. Repentance—What it it?—M. C. Allen.
- 5th. What is the best evidence that we are the children of God?—J. L. Pryor.
- 6th. Is it the duty of every member to contribute to the support and spread of the Gospel?—S. E. Parker.
- J. R. Freeman, Clerk. F. Martin, Moderator.

REPORT OF WESTERN DISTRICT MEETING.

The next meeting will be held with Cross Roads Church, commencing Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1891. To preach the Introductory Sermon, J. L. Arnold; alternate, A. B. Hicks.

PROGRAMME.

What is the best instruction and direction the Bible gives to keep a growth in grace in the hearts of Christians, and one which will have the best impression to induce sinners to seek and desire Salvation?—T. N. Ross.

What is the the Scriptural duty of churches towards its members who do not attend their conference meetings or contribute to the support of the Gospel?—N. B. Crawford.

Are we not, according to the Bible, living in the evening of time?—A. B. Hicks.

All those who did not bring up essays at the last session of the District meeting, are continued on same subject.

G. S. Patterson, Clerk. W. M. High, Moderator.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Allen, M. C.	Slate Spring, Calhoun Co., Miss.
Arnold, J. L.	Cumberland, Webster, " "
Ball, A. C.	Hohenlinden, " "
Cole, S. M.	Benela, Calhoun " "
Duke, G. H.	Walthall, Webster " "
Finnell, J. C.	Eupora, " "
Hicks, A. B.	Bellefontain, " "
Hicks, C. A.	" " "
Hicks, W. T.	Lodi, Montgomery " "
Lusk, T. N.	Redding " "
Middleton, W. S.	Cumberland, Webster " "
Middleton, T. H.	" " " "
Mitchell, J. F.	" " " "
Mitchell, E. J.	Lodi, Montgomery " "
Pugh, L.	Montpelier, Clay " "
Thompson, J. P.	Slate Spring, Calhoun " "
Thompson, W. H.	Slate Spring, Calhoun " "
Wilson, J. L.	Wellefontain, Webster " "
Wilson, T. H.	" " " "
White, R. C.	Reagan, Calhoun " "
Wofford, J. P.	Hohenlinden, Webster " "
Watson, B.	Wathall, " "

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	CHICKASAW COUNTY, tMontgomery county, tGrenada county. Note - For monies collected during the Associational year, see Treasurer's report.										PASTORS.	CLERKS.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICES.
	Time of Meeting.	Baptized.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Minutes.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Pastor's Salary.	All other Purposes.
Antioch.....	14 30	17	5	1	3	39	61	100	65	\$ 50	\$		\$5 00	\$ 40 00
Bethel.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Bethany.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Bluff Springs.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Cross Roads.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
County Springs.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
County Line.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Concord.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Shen.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Supra.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Fellowship.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Greensboro.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Harmony.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Hebron.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Midway.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Mt Vernon.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Mt Pleasant.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Milligan Springs.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Mt Zion.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Montpelier.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Mulberry.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
New Hope.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
New Liberty.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Pleasant Grove.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Philadelphia.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Pleasant Hill.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Pleasant Hill.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Principles.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Pilgrim's Rest.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Spring Creek.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Spring Hill.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Shalona.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Shalona.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Union.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Waco.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10
Wake Forest.....	12 15	12	1	1	3	4	1	5	100	50			300 00	55 10

Cherokee county, Montgomery county, Grenada county. Note - For monies collected during the Association year, see Treasurer's report.

Stewart... Webster...
Walsh...
Oam...
J. C. Thompson...
J. F. Mitchell...
W. G. Davis...
" "

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